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FOR 1897.

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A.S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

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FOR PRESENTS.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

Hongkong, 5th January, 1897. (2)

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BIRTH

On the 15th inst. at No. 2, Bellini Terrace, the
wife of Capt. J. P. Messers, of a son. (1897)

On the 15th February, 1897, at Wallingford,
Perks, Rivers & Co., daughter of Sir John W. and
Lady Carrington, aged 12 years and 10 months.
(1897)

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, FEBRUARY 17th, 1897.

It is with much satisfaction that we are
to-day enabled to announce the early open-
ing of the West River. The agreement has
at last been signed and is to come into
operation on the 1st June next. It is now
nearly a year since it was officially stated
that the river was to be opened, but that the
actual opening was to await the conclusion of
an agreement with reference to the Yunnan
frontier. Presumably that is the agreement
that has now been arrived at, and when its
terms are made public it may perhaps be
found that other matters of interest to Hong-
kong, as well as the opening of the West
River, have been satisfactorily settled. We
hope that such may be the case, but we are
for the moment concerned only with the
West River. Full particulars of the agree-
ment are not yet to hand, but it is
known that Wuchow and another port,
previously shut out, are to be opened to
foreign trade and that four other places
are to be ports of call. As is well known,
suitable steamers are held in readiness for
the trade and will be placed on the run as
soon as the formal opening is announced.
Perhaps the traffic will not assume large
proportions with a rush, but ultimately a
large increase of trade is inevitable, more
especially now that goods arriving at
the head of steam navigation can be
sent further inland under the protection
of transit passes. The opening up of
this new field will contribute largely
to the prosperity of Hongkong and the
event is one on which we may all con-
gratulate ourselves.

If Mr. Lowden's preferring a charge of
murder against Miss Jacob appeared extra-
ordinary in the manner in which he has with-
drawn the charge is still more so. When
the charge was made in the first instance
the mystery of an intricate murder case
was being unravelled. Mr. Lowden, who was
acting as counsel for the person subsequently
proved to be the murderer, set up the de-

fence, which was practically abandoned
before the close of the trial, that the crime
had been committed by another. The de-
fence, though unusual, is not unprecedented,
and we believe there are cases on record in
which it has succeeded, but it is generally
recognised as a hazardous line to adopt. What
is unprecedented, however, is if we are not
much mistaken, is that counsel setting up
each a defence should go out of his way to
lay an information in his own name against
the party on whom he seeks to throw the
guilt. His business is to secure the acquittal
of his client, if he can, and leave the law to
be set in motion by the responsible officers
as regards any other parties who may be
supposed to be implicated. Mr. Lowden,
however, lodged an information "as a mem-
ber of the community" to use his own
words, against Miss Jacob. Had he not been
engaged in the defence of Mrs. CAREW,
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engaged in the defence of Mrs. CAREW,

he would not have felt called upon to
interfere in the matter, and that it was
his professional connection with the case that
stirred his interest "as a member of the
community" to such an extent as to induce
him to make a formal charge against Miss
JACOB. In the discussion that ensued
on his application for the withdrawal
of the charge he repudiated the sugges-
tion that the charge when made was
false to his knowledge. That repudia-
tion must of course be accepted unreservedly
in so far as it means that Mr. Lowden at
the time was not convinced in his own mind
that there was no possibility of Miss JACOB
being proved guilty; but on the other hand
he had no evidence in support of the charge
that could have satisfied any impartial man
as reasonable and probable. He acted, ap-
parently, merely on a theory that he was
endeavouring to elaborate for the defence
of another party accused. That he believed
in his theory as a theory there is no occasion
to doubt, but a theory is a very different
thing from proof and in itself affords no
justification for such a serious step as the
bringing of a criminal charge.

Taking, however, the most favourable view
of Mr. Lowden's conduct, and setting down
his action in bringing the charge against
Miss JACOB as simply an unfortunate mis-
take, what is to be said of his attitude to-
wards the unfortunate victim of his mistake
when he was compelled to withdraw the
charge against her? If the charge was not
false to his knowledge at the time it was
preferred it had certainly become false to
his knowledge during the trial of Mrs.
CAREW. The verdict against the latter was
founded on the strongest possible evidence
of a circumstantial nature, but even if it
was erroneous there could still be no possi-
bility for entertaining the shadow of a
suspicion that Miss JACOB was responsible
for the death of the late Mrs. CAREW. Either
murder was committed by Mrs. CAREW, as
has been proved to the satisfaction of a jury,
or it was a case of death through misadventure
or suicide. The charge against Miss
JACOB was therefore false to Mr. Lowden's
knowledge at the time he was compelled
to withdraw it. It was withdrawn, however,
to use Mr. Lowden's words, "coldly,"
"formally, and without one word of regret."

Not only that, but Mr. Lowden's actual
words might even be taken to indicate a
desire to leave a stigma of suspicion
attaching to Miss JACOB. Having stated
that he had arrived at the decision to
withdraw the charge in consequence of the
withdrawal of his evidence by one witness
and the failure of another under cross-
examination, thus leaving him with the
statements of two Japanese maid-servants
only, who turned out to be cousins, and who
were in the pay of Mrs. CAREW, to establish
a point which he considered of vital impor-
tance to the success of the prosecution,
namely, that the relations that had existed
between the accused and the deceased were
such as to make it probable that the "knew
of ANNE LUKE," he added—"By the
weakening of that link the chain of evi-
dence connecting the accused with the
charge became so attenuated that I deter-
mined to proceed no further with it."

Attenuated indeed! The term necessarily
means that the evidence, though too thin
for strict legal proof, still exists and is
strong enough to carry suspicion. It was
Mr. Lowden's duty as a man of honour
to have withdrawn the charge wholly
and unreservedly. He might have said
that explanation he thought fit as to
his reasons for bringing the charge in the
first instance, but in withdrawing it he
was morally called upon to declare that he
now recognised it to be entirely un-
founded, not merely that the evidence in
support of it was attenuated. Further, any
man of right feeling would, we think, have
expressed regret for the suffering and injury
his mistake had caused. The *Japan Gazette*
suggests that in view of rumours which of
late have been freely circulated of a possible
action for damages by Miss JACOB, Mr.
Lowden felt that it would be wise not to
go beyond the mere withdrawal and to
avoid anything which savoured of an
apology for what he deemed a right and
proper act. Our contemporary says that
even then it was bad policy, an opinion in
which we entirely concur. We regard it
indeed as a much more serious matter than
a question of policy, for Mr. Lowden has
placed himself in the wrong on one of the
most elementary principles of ethics. It
may be that while observing an excessive
caution in open Court, Mr. Lowden has
some scheme in his own mind for making
reparation to the victim of his mistake; we
hope it may be so; but nothing can excuse
his neglect to make the fullest possible
retraction of the charge at the earliest
possible moment.

There is a good deal in the proceedings
against Miss JACOB, apart from Mr.
Lowden's share in them, that is open to
adverse comment. To quote the *Japan
Gazette*—"The Order in Council states
that 'where the urgency of the case so
requires' a warrant may be issued and
executed on a Sunday, but if there was
any such urgency for arresting Miss
JACOB on that day and compelling her to
appear in Court, it is not clear why it was
not done on a Sunday night in prison, if
it does not appear from the evidence. Miss
JACOB was not likely to run away, or to
commit suicide, and if she had been

arrested on some day not a Sunday the
"urgency of a night in a goal might have
been spared her. Compared with the con-
sideration Mrs. CAREW received such
action seems particularly harsh. Then
again Miss JACOB's boxes were not seized,
at any rate not at first, whereas not only
were Miss JACOB's boxes seized but her
box was handed over to Mr. Lowden to
inspect out of Court. It is difficult to
account for that proceeding, but the least
"intelligent need not light from a brilliant
intellect to understand that it was not justifi-
able. Mr. Troup spoke of its being a mis-
understanding, which it probably was, but
it was a misunderstanding which the Coun-
cil officials ought to have been especially
careful to avoid. The manner of the with-
drawal of the charge also showed little
"unanimity. We must assume that
when Mr. Troup issued the warrant on
Sunday he was convinced that the urgency
of the case required it, and it is equally
fair to assume that Mr. Lowden felt
"certain of the truth of the accusation he
made. But when the case had collapsed
and after Miss JACOB had been subjected
to intense mental strain and had suffered
"the physical indignity of imprisonment,
it is a matter for surprise that neither
"Mr. Lowden, who laid the charge,
"nor Mr. Troup who issued the warrant,
"had a single merciful word to say, not a
"kindly expression of feeling to utter to
"the girl who had been charged with
"murder and accused of being unchaste,
"and yet against whom no evidence was
"forthcoming." After alluding to the
reasons that may have weighed with
Mr. Lowden our contemporary proce-
dures—"In any case Mr. Troup was in
"no such predicament and he might well
"have spoken a word or two of sympathy
"with one who had undergone so terrible
"an ordeal, though it is only right to add
"that as Counsel he has performed a very
"thoughtful act in granting the certificate
"a copy of which we have published."

It must have occurred to Mr. Troup on
reflection that Miss JACOB had not been fairly
treated in court by himself or Mr.
Lowden. His own sympathy seemed to be
entirely with the latter, who if he was placed
in an unpleasant position had only himself
to thank for it, while to Miss JACOB, a
victim of injustice, he had not a word of
sympathy to express. On the other hand,
although Mr. Lowden had mentioned that
Miss JACOB might bring an action for malici-
ous prosecution, and although there had
been rumours that she intended to do so, Mr.
Troup went out of his way to prejudice any
possible action of that kind by making a
quite unbecoming declaration that he was
satisfied that Mr. Lowden at the time he
made the charge was convinced of its truth.
He thought it right and proper to give a
certificate of character to Mr. Lowden,
who was very well able to protect himself,
and who was in the wrong, while Miss
JACOB, the sufferer by that wrong, was
allowed to leave the court without any
declaration being made in her favour. Mr.
Troup's after thought of issuing a certificate,
whether it originated with himself or was
suggested to him, was certainly a fortunate
one and to some extent made amends for
the harshness of the proceedings in
court. Having regard to the character
of the entire case, however, and to the
specific irregularities mentioned in the
extract from the *Japan Gazette* quoted
above, the parties more immediately respon-
sible may be congratulated on the fact that
the affair took place in Yokohama instead
of in England, for if England had been the
scene of such outrageous proceedings in the
name of justice the storm of popular indig-
nation that would have been raised would
have entailed disagreeable consequences.

The Austrian Lloyd's steamer *Maria Valerie*
left Singapore for this port on the 15th inst.
at noon.

An Indian soldier was fined \$10 at the Police
Court yesterday for opening an air-valve in the
reservoir in Po-pong valley.

At the annual meeting of "B" Company of the
Shanghai Volunteers Mr. H. W. Dalry
was elected Chairman. Mr. W. Whitford seconded
the Chairman of the Company.

The P. & O. steamer *Leinster* left Singapore
for this port on the 15th inst. at 8 p.m.
with the following mails and is expected
back about 6 p.m. on the 21st inst.

The P. M. steamer *Peking*, with
mail, left San Francisco for this port
on the 15th inst. at 10 p.m. with the
following mails and is expected back
about 6 p.m. on the 21st inst.

Two men broke into a house at Yamutai on
the 12th inst. and stole \$10 worth of clothing
from the house of a Chinese. The stolen
clothing was recovered and yesterday
was sent to goal for four months with hard
labour.

According to a recent issue of the *Japan
Gazette*, negotiations were alleged to be on foot
between Mr. Lowden and Mr. Sidmore for
the payment of a sum of money by way of com-
pensation for Miss JACOB's injuries in person
sent to the Police Court. Mr. Sidmore has
been offered, but refused as inadequate.

Messrs. Alex. B. B. and Co., in their met-
ing dated Shanghai, 13th February, say
that the Eastern Branch of the Equitable Life
Assurance Society of the United States, "This
Society we understand is doing a very large
business both among foreigners and natives
in North China and Mr. Hamilton believes he
can make the advantages his Office offers better
known in South China than they appear to be,
although he will be able to remain here for a
few days only."

The Spanish Minister in Peking having
called the Chinese Government to issue strict
instructions regarding the private exportation
of arms, gunpowder, and other warlike im-
ports, the Chinese Government has been ordered by
the southern provinces have been ordered by an
Imperial decree from Peking to prohibit the
secret export of munitions of war to the coast
and southern ports, more especially to Manila.
Nevertheless the Shanghai firm has got away at
least one ship loaded with arms destined for
Manila and has been vainly trying for some
months past to dispatch another *China
Gazette*.

Among the list of passengers who arrived by
the steamer *Natal* from Shanghai will be found
the names of Mr. C. A. Jones, Mr. J. H. Jones,
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H.M.S. *Zeus* leaves for home on Saturday
at 10 a.m. for the Cape of Good Hope and
the Atlantic. The ship is commanded by
Lieut. Col. G. A. Jones, and is accompanied
by the ship's company. The ship is expected
back about 6 p.m. on the 21st inst.

The O. & O. steamer *Dora*, with mail, left
San Francisco for this port on the 15th inst.
at 10 p.m. with the following mails and is
expected back about 6 p.m. on the 21st inst.

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NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

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FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG, AND SINGAPORE

The Ship

"LIGHTNING"

Having arrived from the above ports, Consignees of Goods are hereby informed that their goods will be delivered from alongside.

Cargo impounding the discharge or remaining on board after 4 p.m. of the 16th inst. will be landed at Consignees' risk and expense into the Godown of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited, at Wanchai.

Consignees of cargo from SINGAPORE and PENANG are requested to take IMMEDIATE delivery of their goods from alongside. Such cargo impounding the discharge of the Vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by

DAVID SASSOON, SONS & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, 15th February, 1897. [442]

NORDEUTSCHER Lloyd.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

S.S. "PRUSSEN"

The above-named steamer, having arrived from the above ports, Consignees of Goods are hereby informed that their goods, with the exception of Opium, Treasures, and Valuables, are being landed and stored at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, at Wanchai, whence delivery may be obtained.

Optional cargo will go on to Shanghai unless notice to the contrary be given before Noon.

No Claims will be admitted for goods which have left the Steamer after the 15th inst. unless endorsed after the 20th inst. will be subject to suit.

All broken, damaged, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns of the Steamer, and examined on WEDNESDAY, the 17th inst., at 3 p.m.

All Claims must reach us before the 20th inst. or they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

MELCHERS & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, 15th February, 1897. [17]

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship

FROM BOMBAY AND STRAITS

Consignees of Goods from the above-named vessel are hereby informed that their goods are being landed and placed at their risk in the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's Godowns at Wanchai, where such cargo will be stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

Goods not cleared by the 19th inst., at 4 p.m., will be subject to suit.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by me in any case whatever.

All damaged packages must be left in the Godowns and a certificate of the damage obtained from the Godown Company within ten days after the vessel's arrival here, after which no claims will be recognized.

H. A. RITCHIE, Superintendent.

Hongkong, 15th February, 1897. [11]

FROM SEATTLE, WASHINGTON, VIA YOKOHAMA AND KOBE.

THE Company's Steamship

"SAKURA MARU"

Having arrived from the above ports, Consignees of Goods are requested to take IMMEDIATE delivery of their goods on or after 4 p.m. of the 16th inst. Any cargo impounding the discharge of the vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA, Agents.

Hongkong, 15th February, 1897. [446]

TO CONSIGNEES OF OPTIONAL CARGO, EX O. S. S. CO.'S S.S. "PATROCLUS"

FROM LIVERPOOL.

SHIPPING Orders must be obtained from the Undersigned not later than the 17th inst. for shipment per steamer "PATROCLUS" BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, 15th February, 1897. [346]

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

JAPAN-BOMBAY LINE.

MONTHLY SERVICE (UNDER MAIL CONTRACT).

FOR SINGAPORE, COLOMBO, AND BOMBAY.

(Calling at Port of Call on the home ward voyage).

THE Company's Steamship

"MIKE MARU"

Captain P. H. Gage, will be despatched as above TO-YAY, the 17th inst., at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA, Agents.

Hongkong, 15th February, 1897. [236]

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOTS POSTE FRANCAIS.

NOTICE.

STEAM FOR SINGAPORE, BATAVIA, COLOMBO, PONDICHERRY, MADRAS, CALCUTTA, DIBOUT, EGYPT, MARSEILLE, MEDITERRANEE, AND BLACK SEA PORTS.

LONDON, HAVRE, BORDAUX, PORTS OF BRAZIL AND VENEZUELA.

At Noon, the Company's Steamship

"NATAL," Captain Chevalier, with Mails, Passengers, Specie, and Cargo, will leave this Port for the above ports via Port of all WITHOUT TRANSHIPMENT.

Cargo and Specie will be registered for London as well as for Marseilles, and accepted in transit, through Marseilles for the principal ports of Europe.

Shipping Orders will be granted till Noon, Cargo will be received on board until 4 p.m. Specie and Passengers until 3 p.m. on the 16th inst. (Goods not to be sent on board, they must be left at the Agency's Office, Contents and Value of Packages are required.)

For further Particulars, apply at the Company's Office.

G. DE CHAMPEAUX, Agent.

Hongkong, 15th February, 1897. [12]

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOI, AND HOOGHONG.

THE Company's Steamship

"HAITAN"

Captain Bock, will be despatched for the above ports TO-MORROW, the 18th inst., at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DOUGLAS LAFRAIK & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, 17th February, 1897. [457]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE Company's Steamship

FOR KOBE

"TAIYUAN"

Captain L. Nelson, will be despatched as above TO-MORROW, the 18th inst., at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, 16th February, 1897. [41]

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.

THE American Bark

"COLOMA"

Nores, Master, will leave for the above port and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to

SHEWAN TOMES & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, 13th February, 1897. [410]

VESSELS ON THE BERTH

OREGON RAILWAY AND NAVIGATION COMPANY'S PACIFIC STEAMSHIP LINE.

CHINA AND JAPAN

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG, 1897. (Subject to Alteration.)

MONDAY, 15th Feb. 1897.

TAKING PASSENGERS AND CARGO FOR UNITED STATES AND CANADA AT THROUGH RATES.

THE Steamship

"MONMOUTHSHIRE"

will be despatched for VICTORIA, B.C., on the 16th inst., at Noon.

Kobe and YOKOHAMA, TO-DAY (WEDNESDAY) the 17th inst.

Consular Invoices of Goods for United States and Canada should be forwarded by the Steamer to the care of the GENERAL FREIGHT AGENT, Oregon Railway Navigation Co., Portland, Oregon.

For further information as to Passage and Freight, apply to

SHEWAN TOMES & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, 12th February, 1897. [248]

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

TRANS-PACIFIC LINE.

(MONTHLY SERVICE).

FOR SEATTLE, WASHINGTON, VIA MOJI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA, AND HONOLULU.

(Through Passenger Tickets and Bills of Lading issued for the principal ports in the UNITED STATES, CANADA, and EUROPE, in connection with the Great Northern Railway and Atlantic Steamers.)

THE Company's Steamship

"SAKURA MARU"

Captain Brady, will be despatched as above TO-MORROW, the 18th inst., at Noon.

Consular Invoices of Goods for United States and Canada should be forwarded by the Steamer to the care of the GENERAL FREIGHT AGENT, Great Northern Railway, Seattle, Wash., by the same steamer.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

MELCHERS & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, 15th February, 1897. [17]

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Goods not cleared by the 19th inst., at 4 p.m., will be subject to suit.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by me in any case whatever.

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